# NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

Weekly Staff Newsletter
April 23, 1999


## *Origins* E-Field Trip a coast-to-coast success

We would like to thank everyone who made the *Origins* E-Field Trip such a success. Through your efforts, we were able to open our doors to students coast-to-coast to let them explore *Origins* and our Anthropology collections from their own classrooms. Having reached an audience of hundreds of thousands, we are happy to say that the stars of our show, **Jim Phillips, Sibel Kusimba, Matt Matcuk,** and **Christine Molzahn,** are now ready for prime time. We also would like to thank the following staff and departments:

**Elisa Aguilar-Kutza**
**Ron Cundiff**
**Jonathan Haas**
**Chap Kusimba**
**Peter Lowther**
**Anita Purnell**
**Bill Stanley**
**Dirk Urban**
**Sheila Wheatley**
**Diane White**
Engineering
Housekeeping
Maintenance
Security
Visitor Services

Submitted by **Jennifer Eagleton**

### FIELD NOTES

*Week of April 26*

**Public Events/Special Events**

*Art of Being Kuna* Media Preview
• Thursday & Friday, 10 a.m.

**Staff/Volunteer Events**

Tax-Sheltered Annuity Informational Meetings
• Monday 11 a.m., LH2
Wednesday 11 a.m., DR C/D

Aerobics Class
• Tuesday & Thursday 5 p.m.
Ground Floor, East Stairwell

***ATTENTION MOVIE BUFFS***

*Call or stop by the Human Resources office for discounted movie tickets for Loews/Cineplex Odeon/Sony Theatres for only $5.*

## Fossil named for Bill Turnbull

Named for **William D. Turnbull**, Curator Emeritus, Fossil Mammals, Geology, *Badjcinus turnbulli* (Family Thylacinidae) is a new species of carnivorous marsupial from a fauna from the Oligocene to middle Miocene (about 20 million years old) in the Riversleigh region in northwestern Queensland, Australia. Having a new species named for him is an honor that is richly deserved by Bill, as he has worked "in the search for Tertiary and Pleistocene mammal remains" in this and other parts of Australia intermittently since 1963, and has been a member of the Australian Mammal Society, the Australian Geological Society, and the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science. The species was named by Jeanette Muirhead and Stephen Wroe, both of the University of New South Wales. Thylacinids are related to the Tasmanian devil and the recently extinct "marsupial wolf".

Submitted by the Academic Affairs Department

## $$ FINANCE FORUM $$

Enclosed in this week's *Natural News* is a new form, the Business Expense Report Attachment for itemization of expenses. This form is available in the mailroom, and is to be used, if needed, for more detailed itemization of expenses that appear on Page One of the Business Expense Report. In addition, please note that all Business Expense Reports are now to be directed to **Karen Little**, ext. 544. ***FYI to all travelers: the mileage rate is 32.5 cents per mile.***

### *Sounds From the Vaults* team presents paper

**Michelle Miller** (Exhibit Developer, *Sounds From The Vaults),* along with **Alaka Wali** (Acting Chair, Anthropology) and **Carolyn Johnson** (Ethnomusicologist, Anthropology), presented a paper at last week's Central States Anthropological Society Annual Meeting. The paper, "*Sounds From The Vaults*: Presenting Music, Anthropology and Museum Collections in a Public Millennium Exhibit," was extremely well received by those in attendance at the 76th Annual Conference. Their presentation focused on the discursive processes involved in developing and designing a temporary anthropological exhibition at The Field Museum for the Millennium year.

### Golf, Hensold, Muraski-Stotz inspire young scientists

**Anamari Golf** (Exhibits) and Field Museum "Women in Science" **Francie Muraski-Stotz** (Exhibits) and **Nancy Hensold** (Botany) were invited to participate in the May 17 conference "Young Women in Science and Technology: Teaching, Inspiring, Celebrating," hosted by the University of Illinois at Chicago. Their presentation, "Paths to Careers in Science: Dialogue and Discovery," will showcase the *Women in Science* Web site and include discussion of ways to encourage young people to explore science careers.

Submitted by **Rich Faron**

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### Education brochure wins award

Each year, the Education Department publishes a program brochure that describes its offerings to students and teachers. This year's publication, *The 1998-1999 Education Programs for Students and Teachers,* won an Honorable Mention at the AAM Museum Publications Design Competition. Margot Perman and Amy Donaldson of Real Design/NY were responsible for graphic design; **John Weinstein** (Photography) for the cover photography; **Nina Cummings** (Photography) for the photographs reproduced inside the brochure; and **Dina Zissimopoulos** (Education) for writing and project coordination.

Submitted by **Dina Zissimopolous**

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### Live TV show tickets!

Project Millennium's live televised speaker series, "Future Perfect: Conversations for the new Millennium" continues on Wednesday, May 5 with the theme of Discovery and Technology. Physicist and Futurist Freeman Dyson and MacArthur "genius" science fiction writer Octavia Butler will discuss science and technology and how it will influence our lives in the future. Field Museum trustee **Bill Kurtis** moderates this program, which will be broadcast live on WTTW Channel 11 at 7 p.m. and rebroadcast at 10 p.m., 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

There are a few tickets available for Museum staff to participate in the live studio audience. If you are interested, please contact **Robin Wagner** (ext. 245 or rwagner@fmnh.org) as soon as possible to reserve a seat.

Submitted by **Robin Wagner**

# BUSINESS EXPENSE REPORT

## Attachment – Itemization of Expenses

*Please transfer category subtotals to the Business Expense Report.*

| Category | Description of expenditure | Date | Reference or receipt # | Amount in foreign exchange | Rate of exchange or mileage | Mileage # | Amount in U.S. $ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

***CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME!***

*The following are new staff who started their employment during March.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Antov Andrey | Zoology/Insects | Data Entry Assistant |
| Mary Ellen Bian | Education | Intern |
| Patrick Bradley | Exhibits | Exhibit Preparator |
| Eric Brown | Visitor Services | Visitor Services Representative |
| Terry Bruce | Security | Security Officer |
| Robert Dittrich | Stores | Sales Clerk |
| Kathryn Eggers | Education | Soil Adventure Mobile Developer |
| Jaime Gont | Anthropology | Collections Management Assistant |
| Kimberly Greene | Finance | Administrative Assistant |
| Kalli Hilbrenner | Development | Secretary II |
| Dorothee Jean-Charles | Marketing | Administrative Assistant |
| Jennifer Jungers | Education | Scheduling Specialist |
| Teresa Lange | Botany | Collections Assistant |
| Stephen LaPointe | Anthropology | Collections Management Assistant |
| Joseph Moss | Housekeeping | Housekeeper |
| Lauren Niimi | Education | Program Specialist |
| Shawnaa Pate | Anthropology | Special Projects Photographer |
| Lillie Richmond | Visitor Services | Visitor Services Representative |
| Mitzie Riggins | Stores | Sales Clerk |
| Jacob Robertson | Visitor Services | Visitor Services Representative |
| Tracey Sims | Stores | Sales Clerk |
| Shelley Ulrich | Exhibits | Assistant Exhibit Developer |
| Mary Ann Whedbee | Botany | Collections Assistant/Intern |

**WELCOME BACK!**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bill Ryan | Education | Scheduling Specialist |
| Mary Futrell | CCUC | Special Projects Coordinator |

***JOB WELL DONE!***

*Staff who were promoted or changed positions during the month of March.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Martin Pryzdia | to | Zoology/Amph&Reps | Verification Technician |
| Richard Blob | | Zoology/Fishes | Post-Doctoral Research Asst. |
| Lisa Niziolek | | Education | Writer |
| Nel Fetherling | | Exhibits | Production Administrator |
| Kent Peaslee | | Exhibits | Production Administrator |
| Janet Young | | Development | Events Coordinator |
| Rachel Polutnik | | Group Sales | Project Assistant |

***GOODBYE and BEST WISHES!***

*The following are staff who are no longer employed with us as of March.*

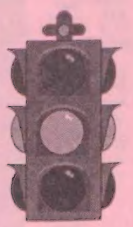
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Erelah Ajao-Spears | Education | Program Assistant |
| Robin Balinsky | Exhibits | Exhibit Developer |
| Cherrynes Bilgera | Stores | Sales Clerk |
| Eric Lindveit | Exhibits | Production Supervisor |
| Paula Shields-Robinson | Finance | Financial Operations Administrator |
| Garry Sipos | Exhibits | Exhibit Preparator |
| India Swayze | Visitor Services | Visitor Services Representative |
| Bill Watt | Auxiliary Services | Administrative Assistant |
| Keisha Williams | Visitor Services | Visitor Services Representative |

# NEWS FROM PUBLIC SERVICES

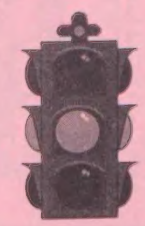
## CTA CUSTOMER ALERT

The CTA has re-routed a number of its bus lines from Michigan Avenue to State Street due to the construction of the Grant Park North Garage. PLEASE SEE THE FLYER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PAGE FOR ROUTES.

If you have any questions, please contact 1-888-YOUR CTA for customer assistance.



## ATTENTION ALL DEPARTMENTS HOSTING EVENTS THIS WEEKEND



Please inform all participants in Museum events that due to the events that are being held citywide this weekend, especially those on Sunday April 25, there will be heavy traffic and street closures.

**On Sunday, April 25:**

- Soldier Field will be charging the event fee of $10 for parking.
- The March of Dimes Walk America is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., with setup on Saturday, April 24. The route begins on Columbus at Roosevelt (Columbus from Roosevelt to Monroe will have a temporary street closure from 9 to 10 a.m.), goes north on Columbus to Monroe, and to State Street continuing to the North Avenue Underpass, where walkers will continue south on the Lakefront Bike Path and finish in Arvey Field (10$^{h}$ and Columbus).
- George Strait will be in concert at Soldier Field beginning at noon. (Gates open at 10 a.m.) Fans are encouraged to use public transportation.
- The Walk with Israel is scheduled to begin at Grant Park and end at Navy Pier, starting south of Monroe and east of Lake Shore Drive at 11:15 a.m. Buses transporting walkers may be staging on Columbus Drive from Congress to Monroe. Walkers will be using sidewalks.

## SOLDIER FIELD PARKING UPDATE

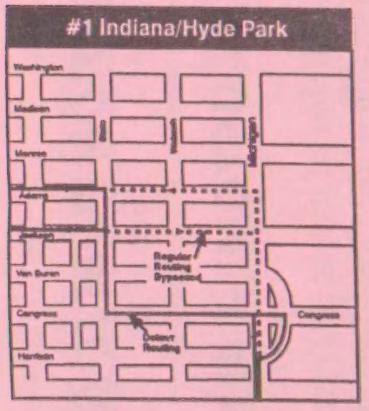
Please be advised that the *$4.25 Soldier Field non-event day only parking coupons* are to be used by Field Museum, Shedd and Adler staff and volunteers *only*. Attendants are to ask for institution identification card before accepting these coupons. If staff or volunteers do not have their identification card, they will have to pay the daily parking fee and there are NO EXCEPTIONS.

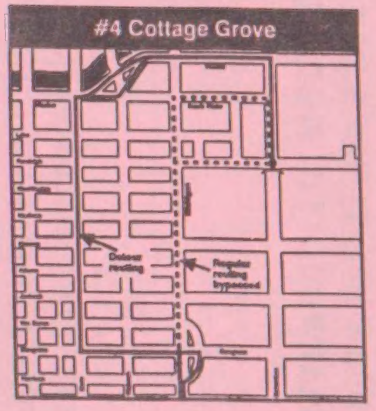
Submitted by **Diane White**

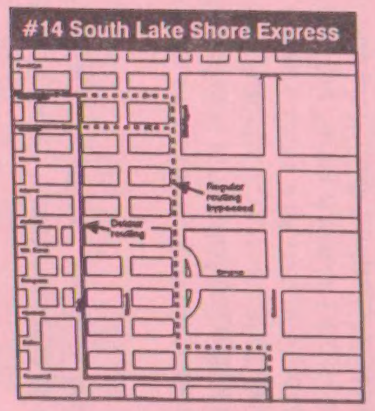
# CUSTOMER ALERT

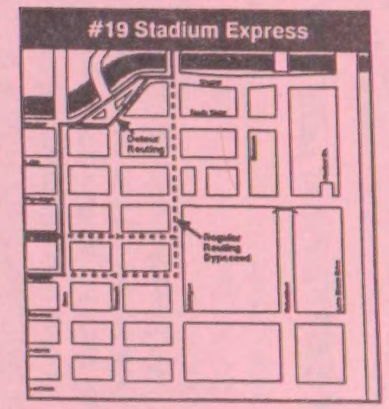
**Due to construction, the following bus lines have been rerouted to State Street, effective May 2nd.**
**#1, 4, 14, 19, 20, 56, 60, 127, 151 & 157.**

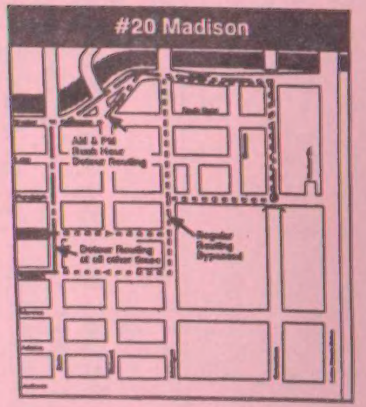
**The #3, 6, 145 & 147 will remain on Michigan Avenue but will not stop between Randolph & Monroe.**

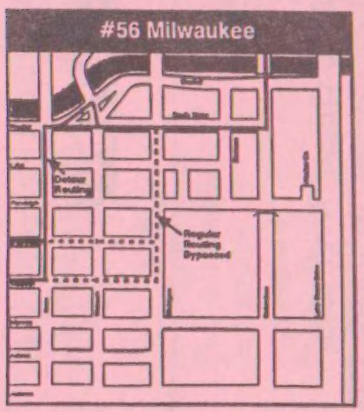


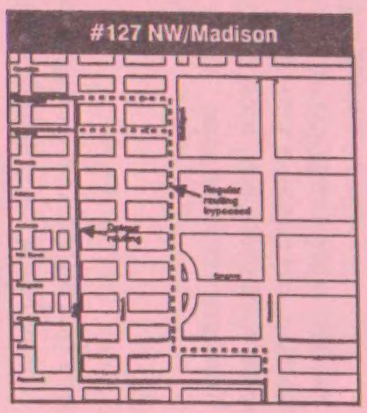





**No Change for the #2, 3, 6, 7, 126, 129, 130, 145, 146, 147.**

**For travel information call 836-7000, for customer assistance call 1-888-YOUR CTA.**

# EMPLOYEE "FIELD TRIP"

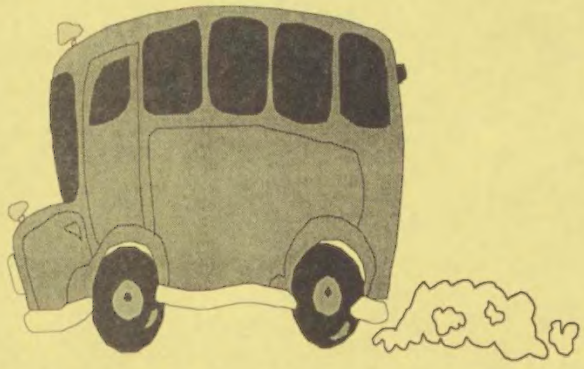
The Human Resources office and social event committee are planning a "Field Trip" for employees to The Shedd Aquarium for the opening of their new exhibit, "The Caribbean Reef". The reef is filled with 90,000 gallons of water which contains 200 inhabitants, including new species of fish.
We have prepared a reservation form (below) to find out who will be attending, so we can give some numbers to the Shedd. The date for the "Field Trip" is Tuesday, May 18th from 2:00-3:00p.m.
Please return the reservation to the Human Resources office by Friday, April 23rd.
So come and join us in the fun and excitement!

cut along the line cut along the line

## SHEDD AQUARIUM FIELD TRIP RESERVATION

**NAME(print please)**

**DEPARTMENT**



_____ YES, I will be attending the trip

_____ NO, I am not interested

The "Field Trip" for the Shedd Aquarium is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18th from 2:00-3:00p.m.
Please return to the Human Resources Department by Friday, April 23rd.

Submitted by the Human Resources office and Social Event Committee

1999

# May

1999

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 Mbrship/Ed-JST/SFH/Rice 12pm-9pm<br>FMNH STAFF PARK IN SF<br><br>Fire vs DC 7pm |
| 2 Ed-SFH 7am-3pm<br>SWebb-JST 12:00pm-10:00pm<br>Public Serv-St Jude-Rice 8:00am-3:00pm | 3 SRhoads-SFH 5pm-8:30pm | 4 | 5<br><br>Intl' Soccer-8:00pm | 6 Member's Night | 7 Member's Night | 8 U of I at Chg-JST 2pm-6pm Dinos & More – SFH/JST 11:00am-3:00pm<br>NRoyal-Terraces 8am-5pm<br>Chg Abused Women Coal.-SFH 7pm-12am 500 |
| 9 JKrynytzky-JST 4:00pm-10:00pm<br>SVandenbosch-Rice 3pm-11pm | 10 Dinos & More-SFH/JST 10:00am-1:00pm | 11 Sun Chemical Corp-SFH/JST 7:00pm-10:00pm 500<br>Set-up for Kraft after event | 12 Kraft Foods-SFH 6:00pm-10:00pm | 13 National Science Olympiad-SFH/Rice/JST 7:00am-Midnight | 14 National Science Olympiad-SFH/Rice/JST 7:00am-Midnight | 15 LSanders-Undrgrd Adv 5pm-12:30am |
| 16<br><br>Fire vs Colorado 3pm | 17 CWinship-SFH/JST 5pm-10pm 500 | 18 SVandenbosch-Undrgrd Adv-5:00pm-6:30pm | 19 T-Special Events- Rice | 20 | 21 St. Mary of Nazareth-SFH<br>JKrynytzky-JST 7:30am-2:00pm | 21 Ed-Overnight<br><br>Fire vs Kansas City 7pm |
| 22 SHamnik-Rice 8:30am-10:30pm<br>Mus. Campus-Bike Day | 24 | 25 LDini-McDonalds Prep Lab-9am-12pm<br>Botany-N.E. Terraces-5pm-7pm | 26 Chase-Founders Room-6:00pm-10:00pm<br><br>Chg Fire vs Int'l 7:30pm | 27 LDini-McDonalds Prep Lab-9am-12pm<br>FLevin-SFH/JST 5pm-8pm 1000 | 28 Ed-Overnight<br>CAndreson-SFH daytime | 29 New Exhibit Opening<br>1999 Spring Symposium-SFH/JST all day |
| 30 New Exhibit Opening<br>PLaraba-JST 10am-3pm | 31 New Exhibit Opening<br>Blues Festival<br>Memorial Day | | | | | |

## *PLEASE HELP!*

On Monday when **Steve Furnett** and I were driving home, we noticed a dog limping along the side of the Eisenhower Expressway. Steve stopped the car and risked his life by dodging cars to rescue the dog. We took the dog to my vet and had him checked out. The dog had a broken toe and needed some stitches on his head. The dog also has a fatty tumor on his side. I found a *possible* home for the dog, but before he can go to his new home he needs surgery. What we need now are some people to help out with the medical bills. If anyone can spare a dollar or two to help with his surgery we would greatly appreciate it. Call **Paula Horecny** at ext. 759 or **John Zehren** at ext. 370. I'm estimating the medical bill to be about $300. As of this writing I have collected $81. I want to thank those of you who have already contributed and to anyone is willing to contribute. If anyone is interested in adopting this dog, please let me know, in case the possible home falls through.

Submitted by **Paula Horecny**

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### Group Sales welcomes new staff member

Please join me in congratulating **Rachel Polutnik** as she makes the move from Assistant Manager in the Museum Store to Group Sales Project Assistant in the Group Sales Department. Rachel has already begun working in the Group Sales Department and can currently be reached at ext. 850. After graduating from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, Rachel worked at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI) in Columbus. That experience and her enthusiasm in selling the Museum through its retail channels is serving us well as she makes the switch to selling to our group audiences. Glad to have you aboard, Rachel!

**Reminder:** The Group Sales Department (formerly in the Auxiliary Services Department under **Laura Sadler's** supervision) is now in the Marketing and Communications Division (under **Nancy Petchenik's** supervision.) Please direct all internal and external mail to the Group Sales Department. If you have questions, call Laurie Sanders at ext. 843.

Submitted by **Laurie Sanders**

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## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### Lichenologists forge Poland - U.S. collaboration

**François Lutzoni** (Botany) was recently awarded a supplement of $50,000 to his current NSF/DEB grant. The supplement was provided by the Eastern Europe division of NSF's International Programs, but the proposal was evaluated by DEB. This supplement is unusual because it is in the form of an inter-institution cooperation between the Department of Plant Ecology and Nature Protection at the University of Gdansk, Poland, and the Department of Botany at The Field Museum. Under this agreement, Dr. Jolanta Miádlikowska will spend at least one year at The Field Museum to continue her molecular work on the lichen order Peltigerales. In August 1999, members of the lichenology lab at The Field Museum, **Jutta Buschbom** (second-year Ph.D. student at the University of Chicago), **Dr. Katie Glew** (Lichen Collection Assistant), **Jolanta Miádlikowska, Valérie Reeb** (first-year Ph.D. student at the University of Illinois at Chicago), and François, will travel to Poland to participate in a two-day symposium organized by Professor Wieslaw Faltynowicz's lab at the University of Gdansk. During these two days, members of each Lab will describe their respective research programs and present their latest results. These two days will be followed by an excursion of twelve days in the Tatry and Sudety Mountains of Southern Poland. This will be a unique opportunity to study the lichen flora of this part of the world with botanists who know this area very well. This was the first time this type of supplement was awarded to The Field Museum.

## Tax-Sheltered Annuity (TSA) informational meetings

Did you pay too much in taxes this year? Do you need to start saving for retirement? If you answered YES!, plan to attend an informational meeting on the ***ABC's of TSA's.***

***Monday, April 26***
***11 a.m.***
***Lecture Hall 2***

The meeting will last about 45 minutes.

As a follow-up to the meeting, we have invited all three of our TSA representatives to The Museum to meet with you on **April 28 in Dining Rooms C and D from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.** This is a great opportunity to get advice on your personal TSA investment strategy or just to ask questions about your existing account. After the TSA program on April 26, we will have sign-up sheets available to schedule one-on-one meetings with the representatives. If you have questions, please call **Carole Kasarda**, ext. 529.

Submitted by **Carole Kasarda**

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank all those in the Museum who contributed to the flowers for my mother's funeral this past March. Because they were so lovely, my family used them to bid a special farewell at her gravesite. Your kindness was truly appreciated in our time of grief.

Submitted by **Lori Grove**

## MISSING NOTEBOOK

I am seeking a black notebook binder containing snapshot photographs and negatives of the Guggenheim's installation of *The Art of the Motorcycle* exhibit. Anyone with any information, please call me at ext. 416. Thanks.

Submitted by **Robert Weiglein**

## FAN MAIL

Dear **Mary Ellen [Munley]** and **Mark [Larson]:**

Again this year my class and I had the pleasure of experiencing one of your programs that was arranged by **John Frazier**. The tours given by John, **Gertrude Novak** and **Moses [Rasberry]** were excellent. I would like to speak on behalf of the class, as well as myself, on the outstanding job they did. We were impressed by their professionalism and knowledge in the subject area.

It has been a pleasure working with your staff and I hope we can continue to work together in the future. My deepest compliments on a job well done.

Sincerely,
Richard W. Fruhwirth
Adjunct Professor, Governors State University

Submitted by **Lisa Niziolek**

*Natural News*

The *Natural News* is edited by **Rodger Patience** in the Development office (ext. 617, patience@fmnh.org) and **Erica Kelly** in the Finance Department (ext. 584, ekelly@fmnh.org). Submissions are welcome via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon. Remember – write early and often!